



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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1. Iowa redemption centers will make improvements with grant money

**IOWA REDEMPTION CENTERS WILL MAKE IMPROVEMENTS
WITH GRANT MONEY**

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DES MOINES— Iowa independent beverage container redemption centers are planning improvements to better serve their customers thanks to \$965,000 in grants from the DNR's Redemption Center Grants Program.

Many of the redemption centers are using their grants —up to \$15,000 each— to purchase can-counting machines, business computers and facility developments that will improve efficiency.

Ralph and Vicki Kincer have owned and operated RVK Redemption Services in Sheldon since 2005. This year they added another location in Orange City.

“Both locations received funds for more of our manual can counters... it decreases the amount of time a customer spends redeeming containers and increases productivity, thus keeping our labor costs low,” said Kincer.

Some redemption centers will use their grants for basic building and equipment improvements.

Hope Haven Area Development Center in Burlington will use the money to insulate its building, lower the ceiling and install new duct work.

“The improvements to the center will allow for better working conditions for the clients we employ as well as our customers,” said Julie Lunning Anderson, director of Development and Community Relations. “The changes to the building will reduce our utilities and make the operation more cost efficient.”

In 2008, the DNR’s Redemption Center Grants Program awarded grants to 93 Iowa independent beverage container redemption centers for long-term improvements in the redemption process. The centers addressed the goals of sustainability, convenience and accessibility in their grant applications.

“The redemption centers are excited to receive these funds and make improvements,” said Bill Blum, DNR program planner. “Ultimately, all Iowans are the ones that benefit from upgraded facilities, shorter wait times, and increased convenience.”

For more information on the Iowa Redemption Center Grants Program go to:

http://www.iowadnr.gov/waste/policy/rc_grants.html